Remarks

The application being filed herewith is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/113,531, filed March 29, 2002 ("the Parent application").

Amendments to the specification

The specification being filed herewith has been amended at page 1 line 2 by inserting a new section entitled, "CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS", and setting forth in lines 3 and 4 the cross reference information recited immediately above.

In addition, the amendments to the specification set forth in the Parent application in the Amendment filed on April 28, 2003 have been incorporated into the specification being filed herewith. No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the claims

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended by adding the following limitation:

--and wherein the imaging media receptacle is defined by a top opening in the insert cassette--

Although the precise words, "top opening" are not in the specification, the Applicant contends that the expression is indeed supported by the specification. Specifically, in the drawings, Fig. 3 depicts imaging media receptacle 158 as being defined by a top opening (not numbered) in the insert cassette 150, and imaging media "M" being placed into the receptacle 158 via the top opening. Support is further found in the specification at page 7 line 26 through page 8 line 1, wherein it is stated, "[t]he insert cassette 110 can also include a top panel 156 which extends around the receptacle 158" (Emphasis added.) Obviously a top panel which extends around a receptacle

must define an <u>opening</u>, and as the opening is located at a <u>top</u> panel, it follows that the opening is a top opening.

None of the references cited in the parent application show the apparatus set forth in (amended) claims 1 and 12. That is, none of the references show a base cassette and an insert cassette, and wherein the insert cassette defines an imaging media receptacle to receive imaging media, and wherein the imaging media receptacle is defined by a top opening in the insert cassette. To the extent that any of the references do show a base cassette and insert cassette configuration, the imaging media is received in the insert cassette through an opening other than a top opening (see for example Sasaki et al. US 6,318,918 BI, Higuchi et al. US 6,227,732 B1, Ohtsuka et al. US 2001/0011795 A1, and Sasaki et al. US 6,460,845 B1).

For at least these reasons the Applicant contends that claims 1 and 12, and claims 2-11 and 13-22 which depend, respectively, there from, are allowable. The Applicant therefore respectfully requests timely allowance of claims 1-22.

Respectfully submitted,

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